

The Pocahontas Times.

VOL XLIII NO 5

MARLINTON, POCAHONTAS COUNTY WEST VIRGINIA, SEPTEMBER 18 1924

\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

TINY McCoy HUNG

(Wheeling Intelligencer)

May God bless us all, and take us to Heaven on the Day of Judgment. Thus spoke young Tiny McCoy, 23 years old, with only the slightest tremor to disturb the tranquility of his remarkable composure. Ten seconds before he met death by hanging at the Moundsville State Penitentiary at 4:56 Friday afternoon. Eleven minutes later, at 5:07 o'clock, actual death replaced a state of unconsciousness, according to the observations of prison physicians.

An unexcelled peace of mind, a perfect evenness of temperament, a most complete reconciliation to fate, and an amazing mental and physical composure unparalleled in State prison annals, characterized the execution of Tiny McCoy. For the past 88 days, ever since Tiny McCoy was brought to prison, penitentiary officials and religious advisers have marvelled at that same remarkable demeanor which he retained to death.

Holding his 43 auditors breathless by his uncanny coolness, McCoy walked on to the gallows unassisted. Keeping slightly advanced of prison officials, the condemned man stepped to the middle of the trap door, and with a last settling shrug of the shoulders, and a matter of fact buttoning of the lower button of his coat, Tiny McCoy was prepared for the ceremonies of execution.

A prayer was spoken in hushed tones by Rev. H. C. Gaunt, the condemned man said his last words in even voice, the black mask of death was drawn about his head, feet and arms were bound together, and Tiny McCoy was ready to die. Warden S. P. Smith pushed a button sounding a buzzer in an adjacent room, simultaneously four guards jerked on four ropes, and with Rev. Gaunt's cheery "Good-bys," ringing in his ears, Tiny McCoy dropped to his death.

The body, swaying only slightly, was immediately surrounded by Dr. R. A. Ashworth, Dr. O. P. Wilson, and several visiting medical students. Several stethoscopes were immediately applied, and the Doctors began the tense awaiting of death. Silently the physicians, prison officials, and few observers, hovered about the body listening intently through their instruments.

Finally, after a brief period which seemed eternity itself to the waiting group, Dr. Ashworth nodded his head in indication that life had passed.

Quickly the body was lowered to a stretcher, carried to an ante-room, where it was placed in a hearse basket and removed to the Griesel undertaking parlor, where it was prepared for burial. The remains were then taken to the depot, from where they will be sent to Keister, Greenbrier county, W. Va., where relatives will supervise burial services.

On Sunday, April 6 last just 160 days preceding execution, Tiny McCoy entered his home at Cass, Pocahontas county, and after a brief but bitter quarrel, drew a revolver, aimed it at his wife, Mrs. Hallie Virginia McCoy, and pulled the trigger. Then, stepping over her prostrate body, McCoy shot his mother-in-law, Mrs. William Totten, and his brother-in-law, Herbert Totten.

After murdering all three, McCoy turned the gun on himself, but inflicted only a slight scalp wound. He made little attempt to escape and was caught by Pocahontas county officials the next morning. A few weeks afterwards his trial was held in Pocahontas county court and, after a complete confession of guilt, McCoy was sentenced to death.

Before being committed to the state prison last June 17, McCoy gave complete expression to that remarkable fortitude, which characterized his attitude until death, in a written confession which condemned him. It follows:

"I, Tiny McCoy, do hereby acknowledge that I murdered my wife, brother-in-law, and mother-in-law, but I am sorry for my crime and ask all who are affected thereby for forgiveness, as I believe God has forgiven me," he said in his confession. "As I go to pay the just penalty of my deed I want people to know that I go trusting absolutely, solely and only in the atoning blood of Jesus Christ, saviour of sinners, to justify me before God. Having accepted Jesus Christ as my personal saviour and received Christian baptism, I have no hatred or ill will in my heart toward any. I ask Christian people everywhere to pray that I may meet my end with Christian fortitude and my God and Saviour with joy."

With such a complete reconciliation to his fate, which apparently obsessed the man immediately after his incarceration preceding trial, he made no attempt whatsoever at a

defense. Calling his sentence the "just penalty," he retained that attitude to the last and never once demurred with the bitter administration of justice.

Thursday his mother, together with an attorney, interviewed Governor Morgan at Charleston, but with no satisfactory result. In perfect accord with the condemned man's reconciliation, there was never once the slightest intimation of a stay of execution.

A brother, from Pocahontas county, arrived in Moundsville a few days ago, stayed for the execution, and afterward supervised the conveyance of the remains to the old homestead at Keister.

During the long days preceding execution, when the condemned man's existence was occupied solely with contemplation of impending death, McCoy retained constantly an attitude of deep thought and complete belief in eternity. He had previously confessed his faith in "the atoning blood of Jesus Christ" and undergone the ceremonies of baptism.

In protracted conferences with Rev. H. G. Gaunt, Archdeacon B. M. Spurr, prison chaplains, and Mrs. Emma Scott, Sunday school teacher at the penal institution, McCoy professed a profound respect for eternity, and did everything in his power to receive forgiveness for what he termed "my deed."

He also talked at great length with Warden S. P. Smith and Captain of the Guards C. K. Adams, reiterating his reconciliation to death and his desire to die calmly, and dwell peacefully in the hereafter.

McCoy continued to live the natural life of a prison inmate all through the period preceding execution. Yesterday morning he arose at the customary hour, dressed, breakfasted, and spent the morning in conference with his religious advisers. He told them that he had slept well and no disturbing elements had marred his final night's rest on earth.

Although he requested nothing more than the simple prison fare, to which he had been accustomed for weeks, he was given an excellent dinner. With unusually good appetite for a man about to die, he consumed the midday meal with much zest, and expressed his satisfaction, to prison friends.

After dinner he again talked with the prison chaplain. As the hour approached which would mark the conclusion of his earthly existence, Tiny McCoy never flinched and if he experienced any qualms, which prison officials of long experience do not believe, he kept them well concealed.

As the time grew short McCoy dressed for the last time. He attired himself in a neat suit of blue serge, white shirt, blue tie with a thin white stripe knotted about a soft collar, and tan shoes. When the guards called at the death cell, McCoy was ready for the march to the gallows.

With a sure step, McCoy walked quickly through the corridor, to the door leading on to the execution stand, as naturally as he would have strolled down the street. Pausing for a minute for prison officials to open the door, he stepped forward on to the platform.

Calmly stepping to the middle of the door, which was soon to drop him to his death, McCoy shrugged his shoulders slightly pulling his coat up on the back of his collar, and in the most matter of fact way buttoned the lower button on his coat. With raven black eyes roving slowly as he surveyed the 40 men who stared, marveling at his composure. McCoy prepared himself for execution.

Erect and handsome, with only the gloomy environment and the little assemblage of physicians and newspaper men to indicate that death was to take place, the condemned man stood, straight as an arrow. In a trice, Captain Adams bound his legs together, and his hands, which he had voluntarily folded behind his back.

It was at this point that Rev. Gaunt asked him for his final statement, and McCoy responded with the words, eloquent in their simplicity, printed above. Quickly the black sack, which was to conceal evidences of the agonies of death, was pulled over his still unperturbed face.

With everything ready for the final act, Warden Smith sounded the buzzer the guards in the ante-room jerked simultaneously on four cords, and Tiny McCoy dropped to his death.

Local weather observer S. L. Brown reports a temperature of 32 degrees last Thursday morning, but no damage to vegetation by the low temperature. On last Wednesday the thermometer never went above 52 degrees.

The family of Anderson Grimes in The Hills near Mt. Zion have two cases of typhoid fever.

DIED

Myrtle Jane Ervin was born July 22, 1910, and died August 27, 1924, at the Greenbrier General Hospital, Roncoverta. She is survived by her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ervin, of Arbovale, one sister, Mrs. Arlie Vandevender, and three brothers, Warren, Teddie and Burke. Myrtle was taken to the Hospital a few days before her death, with an infected face. It was soon found that the infection was too deeply rooted to be checked. The funeral services were conducted at the home by Rev. D. Mc. Monroe, assisted by Rev. S. S. Shires and Rev. Arch Pugh. Her body was laid to rest in the family cemetery. A more promising young life is seldom seen. She was one who, even though so young, accepted with unusual seriousness the duties and responsibilities of life. She could be counted on to do well her part in the home, school, and among her associates. A young life, a wonderful personality, robust, kind, smiling and happy, cut down like a rose bud. "God works in a mysterious way his wonders to perform." The entire community extends its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family. Myrtle was the sixth of Mr. and Mrs. Ervin's children to be called home. "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also." D. M.

Word has been received of the death of John Robb, aged seventeen years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Robb, of Clarksburg, on Wednesday, September 10, 1924. He took sick while at Marlinton attending the Fair last month.

Mike Cutlip, of Renicks Valley, was killed last Wednesday night, September 10, 1924, by being kicked in the neck by a horse. His son was leading a horse and to make it move up better Mr. Cutlip struck it. The horse kicked and struck Mr. Cutlip just below the ear, breaking his neck. His age was about 42 years. He is survived by his wife and five or six children.

Mrs. Amanda Bishop Hultz, beloved wife of William Hultz, of Hillsboro, died last week, of peritonitis. Her age was 49 years. She is survived by her husband and four children. Burial at the McNeel graveyard.

We wish to extend our thanks to the good people of Marlinton and Hillsboro for their kindness and help during the illness and death of our mother, Amanda Hultz—The Children and Father.

DURBIN

J. W. G. Collins died suddenly at his home near Hosterman last Friday night, and tan shoes. When the guards called at the death cell, McCoy was ready for the march to the gallows.

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FROST

Our little town was thrown in deep sorrow over the sudden death of Annie Hennybacker which occurred Friday September 12, 1924. Her remains were taken to Franklin, and laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery to await the resurrection. She professed religion at the meeting held by Rev. Harris a few months ago, leaving to her parents, brothers and sisters precious memory of a Christian life.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Henry Cain who died at Raywood last Friday of typhoid fever. He married a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson Grimes of the Hills community. He was a good citizen. The bereaved have the sympathy of our neighborhood.

"The Master has come and called for you," was the message heard on September 12, 1924, when little Julia Lee Sharp took her flight for the Heavenly world to dwell with the angels above. Her death is a personal bereavement to every citizen of Frost having been almost idolized by her father and mother and their many friends, as she was sadly afflicted, Her age was seven years and twenty four days. We would say to the parents, "There is life not far beyond this and there is reason to believe that the silver cords which are broken here, shall be brought together again. This sweet child was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Sharp. Her funeral was preached at their home by Rev. Harris and she was laid to rest in the family burying ground. The floral offering was beautiful. May the dark clouds be dispelled and may the mourning hearts be able to exclaim:

"Why do we mourn departed friends Or shake at death's alarm; 'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends To call them to his arms."

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Briggs and son and daughter, of Russell, Pa., accompanied by Miss Inez Gregory, spent a few weeks visiting Mrs. Briggs' parents, Dr. and Mrs. G. M. Jordan and other relatives. They returned by way of Harrisonburg, Va., where they visited relatives.

Mitchell Sharp, of Frost, and Miss Edith C. Morrison were married at home of the bride at Renick, on Wednesday the third. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Morrison. The groom is a son of the late W. A. G. Sharp and is a promising young man. On their return to Frost a nice supper was prepared which all enjoyed. We welcome Mrs. Sharp to our community where she has taught three successful terms of school and made many friends. The serene was enjoyed by many, and could be heard many miles. We wish them joy through life.

Clay Deppard who has been seriously ill for the past few weeks, is improving.

Clarence Jordan and family accompanied by Mrs. J. O. Carey spent part of Sunday with his parents, Dr. Jordan and wife.

Jack Frost did thousands of dollars of damage to the crops in this section. C. W. Rider who has been sick is slowly improving.

J. W. Tyler has just returned from a long visit to his brother Conrad, who resides at Keyser. While there he visited many old town friends. He was familiar, having passed thru the Moorefield Valley during the Civil War. Mr. Tyler is looking good and enjoyed his trip and the visit with his brother whom he had not seen for sixty-nine years.

Sherman Gibson, wife and daughter Euna Lee and son Raymond went at Charlottesville Hospital last week where the children underwent operations.

Garland and Herman McFerrin, sons of A. H. McFerrin, were severely burned last Friday by the explosion of a can of oil. Herman had built a small fire in the yard and poured oil from the can on it. Garland, who is a cripple, was sitting in a wheel chair near the fire. Mrs. McFerrin succeeded in putting out the fire which had ignited the clothing of both boys, and exerted herself so much in doing so as to dislocate a finger and also sprain her ankle.

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One feature worth mentioning was that there was no picnic occasion made of this convention, but people were there for whatever they could get and not for a big all-day dinner. We believe this is a step in the right direction, and it is the purpose of the present organization to continue this method.

The officers for the coming year are Ira D. Brill, President; S. D. Hull, Vice-President; F. M. Spurr, Secretary; H. Les White, Treasurer; Miss Mamie White, assistant Treasurer. Division Superintendents: Mrs. W. H. Young, Children; Calvia W. Price Young, People; J. A. Reed, Adult; G. D. McNeill, General Education; S. N. Hench, School Administration.

The convention added to the organization a finance committee, made up of one member from each district. These are C. J. Richardson, Sherman Gibson, R. S. Hickman and Samuel Sheets.

That religious education is being emphasized more than ever is without question, and there will be an intensive campaign put on this year in this county for the most thorough organization, from the individual school to the head of the department. The children of this county have a chance, and once given a chance they will demonstrate what they can do.

Do not fail to bring your problems to the attention of the organization, and you will always receive courteous response. XX.

Rev. Nelson Hill will go next week to West Virginia Methodist Conference at Parkersburg.

CHURCH NOTES

EPISCOPAL CHURCH
G. J. Cleveland, Rector,
Marlinton
Morning Prayer and Sermon, at 11. Cloverlick
Evening prayer and Sermon 7:45 p.m.

OAK GROVE CHURCH
Rev. J. C. Johnson, Pastor
10:00 a. m. Sunday School
C. W. Kennehan, Supt.
Andrew McLaughlin, Asst. Supt.
11:00 a. m. Preaching by the Pastor
3:00 p. m. preaching, Stamping Creek
8 p. m. Christian Endeavor at Oak Grove.

WESLEY CHAPEL M. E. SOUTH
Hillsboro, West Virginia
W. Clark Early, Pastor.
9:45 a. m. Sunday School
F. P. Kidd, Superintendent
7:30 p. m. Epworth League
11:00 a. m. Address, "The Forgotten Man" by F. R. Hill.
3:30 p. m. at Sharon Church, an address, "The Forgotten Man" by Mr. Hill.
At the morning service Mr. K. R. Timm will assist in the music and render a violin solo.

MARLINTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Harvey H. Orr, Pastor
Bible School 9:45
6:30 p. m. Junior Christian Endeavor
7:00 p. m. Senior Christian Endeavor
11:00 a. m. Preaching by the Pastor.
7:45 p. m. Preaching service.

MARLINTON METHODIST CHURCH
J. Herndon Billingsley, Pastor.
Sunday School 9:45 a. m.
F. A. S. Overholt, Supt.
7:00 p. m. Epworth League
Services at 11:00 a. m. and 7:45 p. m.
Morning—"Joy of Jesus."
Evening—"What is a Revival."
Prayer and praise service every Wednesday evening at 7:45 o'clock. A cordial welcome to all.

REMEMBER, Bishop Darlington at the Methodist Church, beginning October 13. Plan to hear him.

Sunday School attendance last Sunday at the Methodist Church 253; at the Presbyterian, 167.

Bishop Darlington will be here October 13 to begin a series of special services at the Methodist Church. The services will continue ten days or two weeks.

The Womans' Missionary Society of the Methodist Church will meet with Miss Slack at the Marlinton Hospital Thursday afternoon Sept. 18, at 2:30 o'clock.

The 21st annual convention of the Sunday School forces of Pocahontas County met at Hillsboro Wednesday and Thursday last week. On account of the road being closed on both sides of this place, the attendance was not as large as it otherwise would have been. There were however around one hundred delegates registered and quite a few visitors who dropped in from time to time. It was regarded by many as being one of the most efficient conventions ever held in the county. All of those present took an interest and they certainly received good instruction. Dr. Halpenny, Miss Johnson and Rev. Reeves all seemed at their best. Mr. Brocius and O. G. Arbogast were in charge of the music and they added very much to the success of the meeting. A male quartette by Brocius, Reeves, Early and Halpenny was very much appreciated. They were from widely separated sections but they sang together as if they were long friends.

Rev. Johnson, of the Presbyterian church, and Rev. Early, of the Methodist church, demonstrated their interest and ability in Sunday School work by the prominent part they played on the program and in taking care of every detail that contributed to the welfare of the convention.

The people of Hillsboro as usual measured up to expectations of every one, and some were disappointed in that they did not have more delegates.

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A Good Exchange

Country Produce For
First Class Merchandise

We have a full line of merchandise and will do all that we can to handle what you have to exchange

WOOL POULTRY VEGETABLES

The Peoples Store & Supply Co.
Marlinton, West Virginia



GOOD intentions long deferred are oft neglected

The erection of a final tribute to our loved ones should be given prompt attention. The esteem in which they were held should be evidenced by a fitting memorial.

Care should be taken, however, to select a material which is not only beautiful, but which can retain forever its original beauty. GEORGIA MARBLE possesses this attribute. It is formed of tiny overlapping crystals, making it non-absorbent and giving it the essential qualities of beauty, strength and durability.

Its beauty and evenness of texture and its adaptability to design, makes GEORGIA MARBLE the ideal monumental material.

We will show you designs for beautiful memorials in GEORGIA MARBLE

Z. S. SMITH, Agent
Marlinton, West Virginia

GEORGIA MARBLE

ANNOUNCEMENT

of the opening, in the very near future, of
THE MEN'S SHOP
Marlinton, W. Va.

The store room is now under construction, and when opened, will cater to men only. It will be under the management of P. R. Overholt, whose desire and effort will be to give every advantage in point of service, quality and variety of merchandise—all up to the minute—that only an exclusive men's store can give.

Watch this space for later announcements

Dear Editor—

I am a little late in getting this in for publication but I have always heard it said that it is better late than never. So I will say that the reunion came off nicely on the 20th. We had between 80 and 100 West Virginia folks with us. There were three families present: W. E. Ervin, Ira W. Sheets, Clarence Sheets and families; part of L. H. Ervin's family, Willie Arbogast, of Conneville and family. Mr. Arbogast and family came after the picnic was over. The following visitors were from W. V.: Jesse Nottingham and wife, Anderson Nottingham and wife, Elmer Hill, of Nottingham, W. Va.

Mathew Gum and wife, N. J. Wilfong and wife, of Bartow. We had a lovely day and a good time. Sorry there could not have had more as the ladies had a lot of good things to eat to take home with them in the evening.

With best wishes for all my Pocahontas friends.

P. L. W.
Hartstown, Pa.

Born: To Mr. and Mrs. Amos Sharp at Edray, Sept. 9, 1924, a daughter.
Born: To Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Vaughn at Marlinton Sept. 11, a son.
Born: To Mr. and Mrs. Amos Beverage Onoto, Sept. 14, a daughter.

4 MILES TO

STANDARD GASOLINE

Always the Standard!

Look for the Pump in every town

Instant starting; snappy pickups; power that lifts you over the hills; long, economical mileage.

Men

"GET THE HABIT."

One Hour Of Bible Study

Start, Sunday, October 5th, if not before

RALLY DAY

Marlinton Presbyterian Church

NOTE—We are unable to start the Dempsey pictures before next week.